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To: Commissioner for Patents Date: 3/13/2007  
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Notes:

Following this cover sheet, please accept filing of (by facsimile):

1. Form PTO/SB/21 (single page) transmittal form pertaining to pending US patent application number 10/812,614 to Dexter et al, transmitting an Amendment/Reply.
2. Reply to non-final office action in the same case (9 pages).

Thank you ☺.

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PTO/SB/21 (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0851-0031


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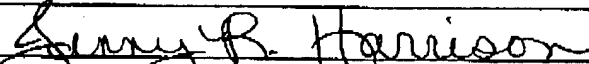
|   |                        |                   |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL<br/>FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number     | 10/812,614        |
|   | Filing Date            | 03/29/2004        |
|   | First Named Inventor   | DEXTER, David D.  |
|   | Art Unit               | 3677              |
|   | Examiner Name          | SAETHER, Flemming |
|   | Attorney Docket Number | 157972-0011       |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  |                        | 9 more            |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| Remarks <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>   |  |  |

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

|              |   |          |        |
|--------------|---|----------|--------|
| Firm Name    | Barcelo & Harrison, LLP   |          |        |
| Signature    |  |          |        |
| Printed name | Joshua C. Harrison  |          |        |
| Date         | 13 MAR 07   | Reg. No. | 45,686 |

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

|   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: |  |         |
| Signature   |  |         |
| Typed or printed name   | Jenny R. Harrison  | Date    |
|   |  | 3/13/07 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Dexter, et al.

Art Unit: 3677

Serial No.: 10/812,614

Examiner: SAETHER, Flemming

Filing Date: 03/29/2004

Confirmation No.: 3198

For: SNAP RING WITH DEBRIS-  
REDUCING CROSS-SECTIONAL PROFILE

Docket No.: 157972-0011

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED 04JAN07MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed on 04JAN07 for the above-identified patent application, please consider the following response.

Amendments to the **Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the **claims** are given in the listing that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Traversing **remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.